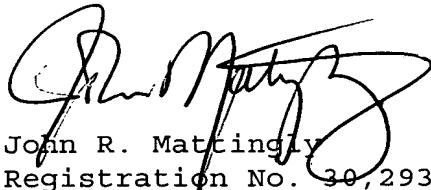


REMARKS

Claims 1-27 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 28-46 are pending.

Entry of the foregoing amendments and examination are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



John R. Mattingly  
Registration No. 30,293  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR  
1800 Diagonal Rd., Suite 370  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
(703) 684-1120  
Date: October 27, 2003